

### ③ Rotations of quantum states and operators.

(Euclidean space)

(Hilbert space)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \longrightarrow & U(R) \\ \text{(orthogonal)} & & \text{(unitary)} \end{array}$$

A postulate:  $U(R)$  has the same group properties as  $R$ .

- Identity:  $R \cdot I = R \Rightarrow U(R) \cdot I = U(R)$
- Closure:  $R_1 R_2 = R_3 \Rightarrow U(R_1) U(R_2) = U(R_3)$
- Inverse:  $RR^{-1} = R^{-1}R = I \Rightarrow U(R) U^{-1}(R) = I$   
 $(U^{-1}(R) U(R) = I)$
- Associativity:  $R_1 (R_2 R_3) = (R_1 R_2) R_3 \equiv R_1 R_2 R_3$   
 $\Rightarrow U(R_1) [U(R_2) U(R_3)] = [U(R_1) U(R_2)] U(R_3)$   
 $\equiv U(R_1) U(R_2) U(R_3)$

- Infinitesimal transformation  $\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}' = \vec{x} + \vec{\Theta} \times \vec{x}$

has the same form in  $R$  and  $U(R)$  as  $\|\vec{\Theta} = \Theta \hat{n}$   
 $(\Theta \ll 1)$

$$U(R) \simeq 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \Theta_k J_k$$

summation  $\sum_k$   
is omitted for repeated index  $k$

Task:

But we don't know

**★ DEFINE " $J_k$ "!**

what's  $J_k$ , yet.

- We will use this notation for all repeated indices.

- Rotation of a quantum state

$$|\alpha_R\rangle = U(R) |\alpha\rangle$$

- Rotation of an operator.

NOTE:

Here,  $\hat{n}$  is fixed.

① Scalar operator:  $\langle \beta_R | S | \alpha_R \rangle = \langle \beta | U^\dagger(R) S U(R) | \alpha \rangle$

has to be invariant.

$$= \langle \beta | S | \alpha \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta_k J_k\right) S \left(1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta_k J_k\right) = S$$

$$\Rightarrow [\vec{J}, S] = 0 \text{ for a scalar operator } S.$$

③ Vector operator  $\vec{V} = (V_1, V_2, V_3)^T$  (in 3D)

$$\langle \beta_R | V_i | \alpha_R \rangle = \langle \beta | U^\dagger(R) V_i U(R) | \alpha \rangle$$

(has to be)  $= R_{ij} \langle \beta | V_j | \alpha \rangle$  (It's just a rotation of a vector.)

$$\Rightarrow U^\dagger(R) V_i U(R) = R_{ij} V_j$$

$$V_i + \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta_k [J_k, V_i] = V_i - \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} V_j \theta_k$$

reordering  $(ijk)$ ,

$$\therefore [J_i, V_j] = i\hbar \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} V_k$$

$$\vec{V}' = \vec{V} + \vec{\theta} \times \vec{V}$$

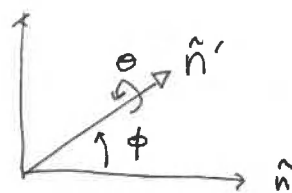
$$\rightarrow V_k + \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} \theta_i V_j$$

$$\rightarrow V_i - \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} V_j \theta_k$$

- Rotation about an rotated axis.

$$U(R_\phi) U(R_\theta) U^\dagger(R_\phi)$$

$$= U(R_\phi R_\theta R_\phi^{-1}) = U(R'_\theta)$$

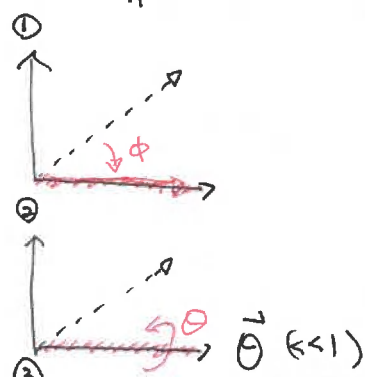


$$U(R_\phi) \left[1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta_k J_k\right] U^\dagger(R_\phi)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta'_k J_k$$

$$= 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} [\theta_k J_k + \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} \phi_j \theta_i J_k]$$

$$= 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \theta_n [J_k + \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} J_i \phi_j]$$



$$\vec{\theta}' = \vec{\theta} + \vec{\phi} \times \vec{\theta} \quad (\phi \ll 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow D(R_\phi) J_k D^\dagger(R_\phi) = J_k + \sum_{ij} \epsilon_{ijk} J_i \phi_j$$

$$\cancel{J_k} - \frac{i}{\hbar} \phi_j [\cancel{J_j}, \cancel{J_k}] = \cancel{J_k} + \sum_{ij} \epsilon_{ijk} \cancel{J_i} \phi_j$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{[J_i, J_j] = i\hbar \sum_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijk} J_k}$$

☆☆☆☆

lie algebra, again.

"Fundamental commutation relation"

defining the Lie algebra between  $\{J_i\}$ .

In plain words, you should find  $\{J_i\}$  satisfying  $[J_i, J_j] = i\hbar \sum_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijk} J_k$

or, you may say, you'll accept any  $\{J_i\}$  if it satisfies  $\uparrow$ .

- An obvious choice from C.M. : Angular momentum.  
(orbital).

rotation:  $q_k \rightarrow Q_k = q_k + \theta \sum_{ij} \epsilon_{ijk} n_i q_j$



canonical transformation:



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{Q} &= \vec{q} + \vec{\theta} \times \vec{q} \\ \vec{\theta} &= \theta \hat{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$Q_k = q_k + \theta \frac{\partial G}{\partial p_k}$$

$$\Rightarrow G = \sum_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijk} n_i q_j p_k$$

$$= (\vec{q} \times \vec{p}) \cdot \hat{n} = \underline{\underline{\vec{L} \cdot \hat{n}}}$$

∴ Angular momentum is a generator of rotation.

☆  $\Rightarrow \vec{J} = \vec{L}$  from quantum-classical correspondence.

• Q: Are there other possible  $\vec{J}$ 's?

A: Yes. There are MANY, as a matter of fact.

ex. spin  $-\frac{1}{2}$  operators :  $S_x, S_y, S_z$

$$\Rightarrow [S_i, S_j] = i\hbar \epsilon_{ijk} S_k \quad : \text{we know this!}$$

"orbital" angular momentum :  $\vec{L} = \vec{X} \times \vec{P} = \vec{J}$

"Spin" : all other possibilities, ex.  $\vec{J} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \vec{\sigma}$

on, we just say "angular momentum" to call all of them.

(2) Spin  $-\frac{1}{2}$  systems and Rotations.

$$[J_i, J_j] = i\hbar \epsilon_{ijk} J_k \rightarrow \text{realization at the Hilbert space dim.} = 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{J} = \vec{S} \text{ for spin } -\frac{1}{2}.$$

$$H. \text{Dim} = 2 \Leftarrow \{ | \uparrow \rangle, | \downarrow \rangle \}$$

spin  $-\frac{1}{2}$  & It'll be shown later...

Wait! We're working on rotations in 3D, aren't we?

But, here it looks like 2D...

↳ Rotation is in 3D (x, y, z) spatial <sup>3D</sup> coordinates

so, we're going to rotate  $\vec{S} = (S_x, S_y, S_z)^T$ ,

but now,  $S_{x,y,z}$  is not a scalar.

it's a  $2 \times 2$  matrix. rep. by  $\{ | \uparrow \rangle, | \downarrow \rangle \}$  -

basis <sup>2D</sup>!

We have already seen the rotation of a spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  system, but we didn't just say it's "rotation".

Spin Precession revisited.

: A Spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  operator  $\vec{S} = (\tilde{S}_x, \tilde{S}_y, \tilde{S}_z)^T$  time-evolving of an electron in a magnetic field. with the Hamiltonian

$$H = \omega S_z \quad \parallel \quad \omega \equiv \frac{|e| \hbar B}{m_e c}$$

The time-evolution operator  $U(t) = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} H t} = \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \tilde{S}_z \omega t\right]$

↳ Heisenberg eq. of motion  $\frac{d\vec{S}}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [\vec{S}, H] \xrightarrow{\text{sol.}} \underline{\underline{\vec{S}(t) = U^\dagger(t) \vec{S} U(t)}}$

on the direct time-evolution of a ket  $|\alpha, t\rangle = \underline{\underline{U(t) |\alpha\rangle}}$ .

provide  $\langle \alpha | \exp\left[+\frac{i}{\hbar} \tilde{S}_z \omega t\right] \vec{S} \exp\left[-\frac{i}{\hbar} \tilde{S}_z \omega t\right] | \alpha \rangle$ .

• There are two ways of computing this.

① express  $\vec{S}$  in the eigenket basis of  $\tilde{S}_z$ :

$$S_x = \frac{\hbar}{2} [|\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|]$$

$$S_y = \frac{\hbar}{2} i [ -|\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| ]$$

$$S_z = \frac{\hbar}{2} [ |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| - |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| ]$$

ex.  $\frac{\hbar}{2} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \tilde{S}_z \omega t} [|\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|] e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \tilde{S}_z \omega t}$  for  $\tilde{S}_x(t)$ .

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ e^{i \frac{\omega t}{2}} |\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| e^{i \frac{\omega t}{2}} + e^{-i \frac{\omega t}{2}} |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| e^{-i \frac{\omega t}{2}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[ (|\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|) \cos \omega t + i (|\uparrow\rangle\langle\downarrow| - |\downarrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|) \sin \omega t \right]$$

$$\underline{\underline{S_x(t) = S_x \cos \omega t - S_y \sin \omega t}}$$

② use  $[\tilde{S}_i, \tilde{S}_j] = i\hbar \epsilon_{ijk} \tilde{S}_k$ , only.

16

2-1 . Heisenberg EOM:

$$\frac{d\tilde{S}_x}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [\tilde{S}_x, \omega \tilde{S}_z] = -\omega \tilde{S}_y$$

$$\frac{d\tilde{S}_y}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [\tilde{S}_y, \omega \tilde{S}_z] = \omega \tilde{S}_x$$

$$\frac{d\tilde{S}_z}{dt} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [\tilde{S}_z, \omega \tilde{S}_z] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{\tilde{S}}_x = -\omega^2 \tilde{S}_x \rightarrow \tilde{S}_x(t) = \tilde{A} e^{i\omega t} + \tilde{B} e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\underline{\tilde{S}_x(t) = \tilde{S}_x(0) \cos \omega t - \tilde{S}_y(0) \sin \omega t} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{initial conditions.} \\ \tilde{S}_x \equiv \tilde{S}_x(0) = \tilde{A} + \tilde{B} \\ \tilde{S}_y \equiv \tilde{S}_y(0) = -i(\tilde{A} - \tilde{B}) \end{array} \right.$$

2-2 . Baker - Campbell - Hausdorff formula (2.3.41) Sakurai.

$$e^{\frac{i\tilde{S}_z \omega t}{\hbar}} S_x e^{-\frac{i\tilde{S}_z \omega t}{\hbar}} = S_x + \frac{i\omega t}{\hbar} [S_z, S_x] + \frac{1}{2!} \left(\frac{i\omega t}{\hbar}\right)^2 [S_z, [S_z, S_x]] + \frac{1}{3!} \left(\frac{i\omega t}{\hbar}\right)^3 [S_z, [S_z, [S_z, S_x]]] + \dots$$

$[S_z, S_x] = i\hbar S_y$   
 $[S_z, [S_z, S_x]] = [S_z, i\hbar S_y] = -i\hbar S_x$   
 $[S_z, [S_z, [S_z, S_x]]] = [S_z, -i\hbar S_x] = i\hbar S_y$

$$= S_x \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2!} (\omega t)^2 + \dots \right] - S_y \left[ (\omega t) - \frac{1}{3!} (\omega t)^3 + \dots \right]$$

$$= S_x \cos \omega t - S_y \sin \omega t$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle S_x \rangle_t = \langle S_x \rangle_0 \cos \omega t - \langle S_y \rangle_0 \sin \omega t$$

$$\langle S_y \rangle_t = \langle S_y \rangle_0 \cos \omega t + \langle S_x \rangle_0 \sin \omega t$$

$$\langle S_z \rangle_t = \langle S_z \rangle_0$$

→ This is nothing but the rotation around  $\hat{z}$ -axis  
with angle  $\phi = \omega t$ !

But, there's a weird thing.

$$\cdot \langle \vec{S} \rangle_{2\pi} = \langle \vec{S} \rangle_0 \quad ; \text{ [t's ok.]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\alpha, t\rangle &= U(t) [|\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| + |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow|] |\alpha\rangle \quad || \phi = \omega t. \\ &= e^{-\frac{i\phi}{2}} |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow|\alpha\rangle + e^{\frac{i\phi}{2}} |\downarrow\rangle\langle\downarrow|\alpha\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\star \star \star |\alpha, 2\pi\rangle = \underbrace{-}_{\text{wavy}} |\alpha, 0\rangle. \quad \star \star \star$$

The state comes back with a minus sign!

or.  
↳ precession period  $T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$  for  $\langle \vec{S} \rangle$ .

but  $T_{\text{stateket}} = \frac{4\pi}{\omega}$  for  $|\alpha\rangle$ .

(3) Generalization: SU(2) vs. SO(3)

• Pauli two-component formalism  
with the "Pauli" spinor.

ket

$$|\uparrow\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \chi_{\uparrow}, \quad |\downarrow\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \chi_{\downarrow}$$

bra

$$\langle\downarrow| \doteq (1, 0) \equiv \chi_{\uparrow}^{\dagger}, \quad \langle\uparrow| \doteq (0, 1) \equiv \chi_{\downarrow}^{\dagger}$$

a state

$$|\alpha\rangle \doteq \begin{pmatrix} \langle\uparrow|\alpha\rangle \\ \langle\downarrow|\alpha\rangle \end{pmatrix}, \quad \langle\alpha| \doteq (\langle\alpha|\uparrow\rangle, \langle\alpha|\downarrow\rangle).$$